

Temiskaming Hospital

January 7, 2009

Temiskaming Hospital Gets New Operating Room Equipment

Did you know that colorectal cancer is the most common cause of non-tobacco related cancer deaths in Canadian men and women, accounting for 10% of all cancer deaths?

In April of this year, Temiskaming Hospital was approved to perform 150 additional out-patient colonoscopies for fiscal year 2008/2009. This additional allocation, which brings the hospital's total colonoscopy procedures to 567 per year, is for people who have had a positive Fecal Occult Blood Test or who have a first degree relative with colorectal cancer.

With this increased demand to perform colonoscopy procedures, a second endoscopy unit was purchased allowing Temiskaming Hospital to run two separate OR rooms. This new equipment is expected to set a new standard of excellence for examination and treatment in the upper and lower gastrointestinal tracts. It is expected to improve visibility and may improve examination efficiency by helping to decrease examination time and reduce unnecessary biopsies.

Additionally, the Hospital has recently purchased a Harmonic Scalpel. This new equipment is an ultrasonic cutting and coagulating surgical device. It is a comprehensive system that has been used by thousands of surgeons worldwide in both endoscopic and open surgical procedures. Use of the Harmonic Scalpel offers some important benefits:

- Reduces the need for ligatures with simultaneous cutting and coagulation
- Fewer instrument exchanges simplify procedure steps
- Greater precision near vital structures
- Minimal smoke for improved visibility in the surgical field

Temiskaming Hospital is committed to providing quality patient care to the communities it serves.



Visiting Hours:

- 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for medical patients, surgical patients and Long-Term Care patients;
- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for obstetrics patients;
- Visitors to the Special Care Unit (SCU) are restricted to immediate family and/or significant other(s).